

Army Corps of Engineers releases listing of Recovery Act projects, including \$26 million in region

CONTACT: Eugene Pawlik, 202-761-7690, eugene.a.pawlik@usace.army.mil
Patricia Graesser 206-764-3750, Patricia.graesser@us.army.mil

SEATTLE - The United States Army Corps of Engineers today released a listing of Civil Works projects to be funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, including more than \$26 million within Seattle District boundaries.

The legislation, signed into law by President Barack Obama on February 17, appropriated \$4.6 billion to the Corps for its Civil Works program. The \$4.6 billion is distributed in the following program accounts:

- Operation and Maintenance \$2.075 billion
- Construction \$2 billion
- Mississippi River and Tributaries \$375 million
- Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program \$100 million
- Investigations \$25 million
- Regulatory Program \$25 million

Funding within the Seattle District's three-state civil works boundaries includes:

- Operation and Maintenance \$15.562 million
- Construction \$10.8 million
- Investigations \$212,000

Operations and maintenance funding includes work at Howard Hanson Dam on the Green River in Washington to address dam safety concerns, hiring seasonal staff to trap and haul pink salmon at Mud Mountain Dam near Enumclaw, Wash., improvements at Riley Creek recreation area on Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho, and dredging in Grays Harbor, Wash.

Construction funding includes restoration and levee set-back construction work in the Green Duwamish River basin in King County, Wash., and \$1.8 million under Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration to initiate and complete construction of Phase II of the Seahurst Park component.

Investigation funding includes levee failure analysis for the Skagit River flood risk reduction study.

"The Recovery Act funds for Civil Works will enable the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to do much good for the nation," said John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

"In addition to the opportunity to help the nation and her citizens recover from this time of economic hardship," said Woodley, "the Corps will be able to use these funds to accomplish work on water resources projects that will benefit the nation for years to come."

"The Corps is fully committed to ensuring the Recovery Act funds provided for Civil Works are used to achieve the purposes envisioned by the President and Congress for the legislation," said Maj. Gen. Merdith "Bo" Temple, deputy commanding general for Civil and Emergency Operations for the Corps.

"We intend to quickly put these dollars into action to get our fellow citizens to work on Corps projects throughout the nation," said Temple. "At the same time, we will use these funds to build long-term value for the nation in its water resources projects with these funds."

"We recognize that the expectation of the President, the Congress and the American people is that funds provided in this legislation will be quickly put to work and spent in a manner transparent and accountable to the citizens of our country," said Brig. Gen. William E. Rapp, commander of the Corps' Northwestern Division. "Furthermore, throughout our five districts that cover 14 states, we will ensure public safety is at the forefront of any effort. We will maintain rigorous oversight of contracting and program execution to be sure that these dollars are spent well and we will use the highest standards of engineering and science to provide lasting value to the nation. This stimulus funding is a great opportunity for us to serve our Nation at a critical time. We are an integral part of the federal team that has been entrusted to provide the American people with needed, high-quality projects that contribute to the nation's economic recovery, well-being and environment."

Economists estimate that Corps Recovery Act projects will create or maintain approximately 57,400 direct construction industry jobs and an additional 64,000 indirect and induced jobs in firms supplying or supporting the construction and the businesses that sell goods and services to these workers and their families.

The Corps' list of Recovery Act-funded Civil Works projects released today includes approximately 178 construction projects, 892 Operation and Maintenance projects, 45 Mississippi River and Tributaries projects, 67 Investigations projects, and nine projects under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). Regulatory Program funds are distributed to Corps districts based upon workload. All projects on the lists have received appropriated funds in prior years' Energy and Water Development Appropriations acts. No project on the lists is a new start.

The projects selected represent a set of productive investments that will contribute to economic development and aquatic ecosystem restoration. The projects will achieve the purposes of the Recovery Act to commence expenditures quickly by investing in infrastructure that will provide long term economic and environmental benefits to the nation. Moreover, the projects are fully consistent with the President's direction to ensure that Recovery Act funds are spent responsibly and transparently.

The projects also meet the five criteria enumerated in the Congressional report accompanying the Recovery Act, namely that the projects:

- Be obligated/executed quickly;
- Result in high, immediate employment;
- Have little schedule risk;
- Be executed by contract or direct hire of temporary labor; and
- Complete a project phase, a project, an element, or will provide a useful service that does not require additional funding.

Recovery Act funds will be used to complete increments of work on previously started projects and in some cases to complete such projects.

The projects released today are distributed very broadly across the United States. The distribution of selected projects spreads the employment and other economic benefits across the nation.

The lists of projects released today and additional information on the Corps' role in the Recovery Act are available on the Web at: <http://www.usace.army.mil/recovery>